



Fourth Floor  
1 South Pinckney Street  
P.O. Box 927  
Madison, WI 53701-0927

Phone • (608) 257-9521  
Fax • (608) 283-1709

**Lawrie J. Kobza**  
Direct Dial Number • (608) 283-1788  
lkobza@boardmanlawfirm.com

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Groundwater Advisory Committee

FROM: Lawrie J. Kobza

DATE: November 5, 2007

RE: Recommendation on Development of a Comprehensive State Water Supply Policy

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Numerous water management discussions are taking place in Wisconsin. This includes discussions about high capacity wells and groundwater quantity, the Great Lakes Compact, water conservation, source water protection and well construction. The Groundwater Advisory Committee believes it is important that decisions on these issues be consistent, complementary, and further good water management in Wisconsin.

To that end, the Groundwater Advisory Committee recommends that the State develop a comprehensive statewide water management policy that establishes a vision and priorities for the long-term management of the state's groundwater and surface water resources. This policy should:

- balance competing water uses, including environmental protection;
- rely on sound science and the principles of adaptive management;
- encourage efficient water use while discouraging waste;
- provide for coordination among state and local government agencies; and
- seek to ensure adequate water supplies for future generations.

The Groundwater Advisory Committee also recommends that changes made to the groundwater law be consistent with and made in the context of this statewide water management policy.